

From: Scott Slack
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/10/01 9:51am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement.

Here is my proposal for a settlement in this case:

Cause all source-code for Microsoft Windows consumer operating systems (including desktop, handheld, and tablet), and Microsoft Office Professional to enter the public domain after 3.5 years.

This would not diminish the "freedom to innovate", but would rather encourage innovation. Microsoft would then be required to compete with itself.

I am against any settlement that is proposed by Microsoft. They are smart, and would find ways to continue to leverage their illegal monopoly power, in spite of the proposed settlement. In addition, what were the penalties of breaking the previous consent decree? Has there been any restitution for those injured by Microsoft's illegal behavior? By the way, a large fine is nothing to the world's most powerful software company. US users end up paying for it, anyway, because...they have a monopoly on desk-top operating systems. And giving away software is equally absurd, because it can be produced at virtually no cost to Microsoft, and it only destroys the market for legitimate legal commercial and non-commercial concerns.

-Scott

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